

REMARKS

Claims 1-187 are pending. New claims 188-191 are presented herein.

The provisional election of claims 48-187 made by the undersigned in a telephone interview on June 14, 2005 with the Examiner is hereby confirmed.

The indicated allowable subject matter of claims 183-187 is appreciated.

Claims 48, 53-55, 62, 82-84, 89-90, 97-100, 105, 123, 129, 131, 133, 138, 139, 167, 169, 171, 175, and 176 are amended to remove typographical errors. Claims 1-47, 113, 172, and 173 are canceled in favor of prosecution of the remaining pending claims.

The specification has been amended to clarify that the US patent application serial number 10/613,379 has been issued as US patent 6,873,450.

With respect to the Examiner's non-statutory double patenting rejections to claims 48-52, 56-62, 68, 82, 84, 93-105, and 110, a terminal disclaimer pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.321 (c) is submitted herewith. Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

The Examiner rejected independent claims 84 and 176 under 102(b) over Ilkov (US 2002/0024641). The Examiner further indicated that claim 113 that depends from claim 84 would be patentable if written into independent form including all limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants have amended claim 84 to incorporate the subject matter of allowable claim 113, and have canceled claim 113 accordingly, so as to place claim 84, as well as claims 85-112, 114-132 that depend from claim 84, into condition for allowance. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of these claims are respectfully requested.

Independent claim 176 has been amended in a similar way to claim 84 mentioned above. It is believed that claim 176, as well as claims 177-182, is likewise in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of these claims are respectfully requested.

New claims 188 to 190 are presented herein. Claim 188 incorporates the subject matter of independent claim 84 and allowable claim 88. Claim 189 incorporates the subject matter of independent claim 84 and allowable claim 89. Claim 190 incorporates the subject matter of independent claim 84 and allowable claim 111; and claim 191 incorporates the subject matter of independent claim 84 and allowable claim 117. Because each of the claims 188 to 191 incorporates the subject matter of an allowable

claim (and any intervening claims), it is believed that these claims are in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

It is believed that the present invention is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are respectfully requested. If any fees are due in connection with this submission, please debit our Deposit Account # 501516.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gregory R. Muir", is written over a horizontal line.

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